

Maple Grove Community Group

Behaviour Management - Policy and Practice

The named person who investigates Behaviour Management Issues is the Centre Manager

We believe that children and adults flourish best in an ordered environment in which everyone knows what is expected of them and children are free to develop their play and learning without fear of being hurt or hindered by anyone else. We aim to work towards a situation in which children can develop self-discipline and self-esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement.

In order to achieve this:

- All adults will try to provide a positive model for the children with regard to friendliness, care and courtesy and to offer strategies for handling any conflict.
- Rules governing the conduct of the group and the behaviour of the children will be discussed and agreed within the Groups and explained to all newcomers, both children and adults.
- All adults in the Group will ensure that the rules are applied consistently, so that children have the security of knowing what to expect and can build up useful habits of behaviour.
- Adults in the Group will praise and endorse desirable behaviour such as kindness and willingness to share.
- We will take positive steps to avoid a situation in which children receive adult attention only in return for undesirable behaviour.

When children behave in unacceptable ways:

- They will be given one-to-one adult support in seeing what was wrong and how to cope more appropriately. Where appropriate, this might be accomplished by a period of "time out" with an adult.
- Children will never be sent out of the room on their own.
- Physical punishment will be **neither** used nor threatened.
- Techniques intended to single out and humiliate individual children such as the "naughty chair" will not be used.
- Physical restraint, such as holding, will be used only to prevent personal injury to children or adults and/or serious damage to property. Any significant event of this sort will be recorded, and the parent informed the same day.
- In cases of serious misbehaviour, such as racial or other abuse, the unacceptability of the behaviour and attitudes will be made clear immediately, but by means of explanations rather than personal blame.
- In any case of misbehaviour, it will always be made clear to the child or children in question that it is the behaviour and not the child that is unwelcome.
- Adults will not shout, or raise their voices in a threatening way.
- Adults in the Group will make themselves aware of, and respect, a range of cultural expectations regarding interactions between people.
- Any behaviour problems will be handled in a developmentally appropriate fashion, respecting individual children's level of understanding and maturity.
- The whole Group, using objective observation records to establish an understanding of the cause will tackle recurring problems.
- Adults will be aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child's special needs.

Where a child demonstrates unacceptable behaviour or is acting out of character, parents/careers/guardians will be informed in a sensitive and discreet manner. If the unacceptable behaviour is persistent then the procedures under the Code of Conduct policy will be followed.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of the Group on

Signed on behalf of the Group by.....